



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/664,460	09/18/2000	Robert Ellis Chapman JR.	YOR920000625US1	4303

7590

11/21/2003

Louis J Percello
IBM Corporation
Intellectual Property Law Dept
P O Box 218
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

EXAMINER

SHARMA, SUJATHA R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2684

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2003

8

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/664,460

Applicant(s)

CHAPMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Sujatha Sharma

Art Unit

2684

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 18-20, 22 and 23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11, 18-20, 22 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1-11,22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Antonello [US 5,862,469] in view of Cook [US 6,266,523].

Regarding claims 1,22 and 23, Antonello discloses a WLL system. Antonello further discloses a multi-subscriber network node device 20 for connecting one or more telephone wirelines to one or more wireless connections for receiving incoming calls each specifying a telephone number (See Fig.1 and col. 3, line 59 – col. 4, line 15). Antonello further discloses one or more wireless signal generators supporting one or more wireless connections to one or more wireless devices (see col.4, lines 46-59). Antonello further discloses a controlled interconnection between the telephone wirelines and wireless signal generator (see col.3, line 59 – col.4, line 59). Antonello further discloses a method of associating a called telephone number with at least two wireless devices and means for alerting the at least two wireless devices associated with the called telephone number of the incoming call (see col.3, line 59 – col.4, line 4).

Antonello however does not disclose a method of associating a single number with the at least two wireless devices and means of alerting the user with the single number of a first incoming call, means for accepting one of the said wireless devices as the answerer to the first incoming

Art Unit: 2684

call and means for directing the second incoming call to the same single number to one of the other wireless devices associated with that telephone number while the first call is in progress. Cook, in the same field of endeavor, teaches a method of associating a single number with the at least two devices and means of alerting the user with the single number of a first incoming call, means for accepting one of the said devices as the answerer to the first incoming call and means for directing the second incoming call to the same single number to one of the other devices associated with that telephone number while the first call is in progress. See col. 7, lines 35-46 and col. 9, lines 29-32.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the teachings of Cook to Antonello in order to increase the call capacity and provide the user with increased flexibility and cost efficiency.

Regarding claim 2, Antonello further discloses the network node device to comprise one or more computational elements that control said controllable interconnection (see col.4, lines 46-59).

Regarding claim 3, Antonello further discloses the network control unit to include processors and memory for controllable interconnections between the wireline and wireless devices (see col.4, lines 46-67).

Regarding claims 4 and 5, Antonello further discloses the memory in the network control unit to include long-term storage for information (see col. 4, lines 60-67).

Regarding claim 6, Antonello further discloses the network control unit to include wireline telephony signal generators (see fig. 2).

Regarding claim 7, Antonello further discloses a method of generating DTMF tones (see fig. 2).

Regarding claim 8, Antonello discloses a method where the information stored includes a connection process to control interconnections of the network control unit between wireline and wireless signal generators (see col. 4, lines 46-67).

Regarding claim 9, Antonello further discloses a method where the controllable interconnection is non-blocking (see Fig. 1).

Regarding claim 10, Antonello further discloses a method where the controllable interconnection is any to any (see Fig.1).

Regarding claim 11, Antonello further discloses a method where the interconnection is a bus (SEE Fig.1).

2. Claims 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Antonello [US 5,862,469] and Cook [US 6,266,523] in view of Chambers [US 5,867,485].

Regarding claims 18-20, Antonello as treated in claim 1 does not disclose the network node device to comprise of a power supply and the power supply comprising of trickle battery charger and further the battery charger connected to solar cells.

Chambers in the same field of endeavor teaches a system with network node devices and network interface units to replace the last mile fiber/coaxial/twisted pair loop to the curb line wireline networks from residences and/or businesses. Chambers further teaches the method of supplying power to the network interface unit to feed the various components of the unit along with a battery backup. Chambers further teaches the use of solar panels that are used to trickle charge the battery when not in use. See Figures 1 and 4 and column 9, lines 40-50.

Art Unit: 2684

Therefore it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the above teachings of Chambers in the modified Antonello's system in order to power the components of the network node for optimal operation and further use the battery backup when power is interrupted.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11, 18-20, 22 and 23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Henningson [US 6,301,350] System and method for call handling.

Lauzon [US 6,304,649] Method and system for processing an incoming call.

Akhteruzzaman [US 6,449,483] Wireless telephone system for accessing multiple stations via a single telephone number.

Dougherty [US 6,141,556] Telecommunications system with multi-extension services.

Magana [US 6,134,227] Secondary channel for radio frequency communications.

Akerberg [US 5,533,027] Digital fixed radio access system providing local mobility.

Lautenschlager [US 6,571,100] Method of providing a personal communication service, call routing, method and service control point.

Malmstrom [US 5,901,359] System and method for a wireline-wireless network interface.

Art Unit: 2684

Cook [US 6,266,523] Method and system for dynamically assigning features and users to wireline interfaces.

Gallant [WO 99/57876] One number communication system and service integrating wireline/wireless telephone communication system.


Boltz [US 5,943,620] Method for associating one directory number with two mobile stations within a mobile communication network.

Nguyen [US 5,699,407] Method and system for implementing extension phone within a cellular radio communication network.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sujatha Sharma whose telephone number is 703-305-5298. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 7.30am - 4.00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 703-308-7745. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned and for all official communications is 703-872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3800.


Sujatha Sharma
November 10, 2003


NAY MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER